



October 18, 2004

**Builder Training Sessions
New Construction Best Practices
Energy Efficiency, the New 2003 Energy Code and
ENERGY STAR Construction Techniques**

Available from the Maryland Energy Administration

Background

The Maryland Energy Administration received funding from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to provide 18 training sessions in Maryland covering energy-efficient best construction practices, updates on the latest energy codes (new codes went into effect September 20, 2004 in Maryland) and ENERGY STAR New Home construction techniques.

Training Hosts and Groups Wanted

MEA is looking for partners that would like to have MEA and its training contractor, the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, Inc., provide a half-day (approximately 3-hour) training session that (1) emphasizes best practices in new home construction techniques, (2) energy efficiency construction practices, (3) the latest energy codes based on the IECC 2003 code (which just went into force on Sept. 20, 2004) and (4) ENERGY STAR New Home construction practices.

MEA will provide the course materials, a free Field Guide for Residential New Construction and the trainers to conduct the course. We are requesting that our training hosts/interested groups provide the training facility and any refreshments or meals needed. Hosts or groups may charge attendees for participation in the training session. Courses are available from late October 2004 through November 2005.

Course Options:

Standard Course:

Our main course will consist of a three-hour session combining PowerPoint slides with some in-class hands-on demonstrations. If you are interested in reducing customer call backs, increasing customer satisfaction, reducing moisture problems, adding energy-efficient features, and adding value for customers -- this course is for you.

Standard Course with Field Component:

For those groups interested in a more hands-on workshop, the in-classroom training may be combined with a field visit to a model home or a home under construction in order to demonstrate various construction practices. This course model provides the best opportunity for participants to learn first-hand how to put building techniques into practice. The host/group will need to work with MEA to select an appropriate site for the demonstration, and we may need to adjust the length of the course to accommodate the field component.

Introductory Session—for Builder Associations: – 5- to 45-minute sessions

Short introductory sessions are available by MEA to give an overview of materials covered in the courses. Highlights can cover energy efficiency options, new energy code updates and guidelines for ENERGY STAR New Homes. The focus of this session is on company executive management.

Contact:

Walt Auburn, Assistant Director, Maryland Energy Administration,
for more information or to sign up to host a workshop call 410-260-7204 or
e-mail Walt at: wauburn@energy.state.md.us. Alternate contact is Bette Wilson 410-260-7752 or e-mail at bwilson@energy.state.md.us.